

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Original) A manufacturing method for an endoscope provided with a pliable tube comprising an integument layer formed from a resin and a metal tube fitted integrally into this integument layer in an insertion portion, comprising the steps of:

extending the metal tube by a predetermined amount compared with the length in the natural length conditions; and

forming the integument layer around the metal tube extended,

wherein the predetermined amount is larger than the amount of contraction of the pliable tube due to high-pressure steam sterilization.

8. (Original) The manufacturing method according to Claim 7,

wherein the step of forming the integument layer is a step of forming the integument layer by extruding a molten resin around the metal tube extended.

9. (Original) The manufacturing method according to Claim 7,

wherein the step of forming the integument layer is a step of forming the integument layer by applying a covering of tube element made of a resin to become the integument layer around the metal tube extended.

10. (Original) A manufacturing method for an endoscope provided with a pliable tube comprising an integument layer formed from a resin and a metal tube fitted integrally into this integument layer in an insertion portion, comprising the steps of:

forming the pliable tube by forming the integument layer by extruding a molten resin around the metal tube; and

extending the pliable tube by a predetermined amount compared with the length

in the natural length conditions by applying a tensile force in the axis direction during solidification of the resin,
wherein the predetermined amount is larger than the amount of contraction of the pliable tube due to high-pressure steam sterilization.